

The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

Issue 31

Spring 2007

Rachel Latta Franck

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Steve and Brenda Huettner, Tucson Arizona,
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In 1919, Harry Franck married Rachel Whitehill Latta, of Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia. Rachel was born 20 Dec. 1892, the daughter of William James Latta and Kitty Nigh Bingham. Rachel was Harry's companion on many trips and helper throughout many of his books, and even wrote one book herself, entitled "I Married a Vagabond", published in 1939. After her death, her daughter Pat (Patricia Franck Sheffield) wrote the following remembrance.

Thanks, Pat, for letting us share this!

Remembering Rachel Franck
by her daughter Pat Sheffield

There is a 1935 photograph of my mother, taken when she was almost 43, showing her in a Hawaiian two-piece bathing suit, standing on a moving surfboard, her arms outstretched and Diamond Head in the background. The fact that she stayed up only long enough for the picture is beside the point. She managed it.

You had to know her whole story to appreciate my mother. The tomboy as a child, walking on top of fences. Riding on a sled between the wheels of a carriage and just missing the horse's hooves. Sailing her dory in competition in Maine. Studying navigation with a sea captain, with molasses instead of mercury for an artificial horizon (until the dog ate it). At boarding school, she vowed to "make" every team and every organization...and did so. And she made almost every class of 1912 reunion as well.

When her father refused to allow her to study medicine or nursing ("It takes the bloom off a

woman"), she studied business and went to France during World War I to work in Paris, going outside strictly according to schedule so as to avoid being hit by the shells from Big Bertha. A secretary during the week, she spent her weekends as a volunteer, nursing soldiers hit by mustard gas in combat and never knowing which ones would be gone the next weekend.

The ultimate daring act was to marry someone who was not from Chestnut Hill, but from Michigan. The fact that my father, Harry A. Franck, was already a noted travel book writer and lecturer worried the family even more, especially since he claimed he would be back to marry her in June 1919, but had gone underground to sneak into occupied Germany after the Armistice. Needless to say, it all worked out. The honeymoon began with a five minute driving lesson in an Oldsmobile named Caroline, continued with the removal of someone's front steps, and was followed by the brakes

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Editorial

We have reached another milestone in our Latta Genealogy Society. Our members are electing our officers for full terms of three years for the President and Treasurer, and two years for the other officers. See Issue 27, Fall 2005, for our Bylaws. Our goal is to continue our research into the Latta family, share this information with you by this newsletter, and help you find your Latta family history. You as a member can help by voting, volunteering for the TRAILS Project (see page 14), and writing up what you know of your Latta family history and sending it to me, your editor. I hope to hear from you soon.

The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

Published approximately thrice annually

Dedicated to research among the fifty-three branches of the Latta family worldwide, and of our family's origins in the Old World. Funded by members of the Latta Genealogy Society, a non profit corporation registered in the State of Washington.

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\$10-15 dollars per year (US and Canada)
International US \$15-20

Please send your membership donations to:

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Please send your address changes,
newsletter articles, queries, comments, etc. to:

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Please send family group sheets, pedigrees, and ged-com files to your branch captain.

We're on the World Wide Web! Visit our web site at
<http://www.latta.org>

Articles will be edited for grammar, spelling, and clarity. Requests to publish an article will be individually evaluated by the editor.

Revised List of Branch Captains

Another goal of our Latta Family is to find a branch captain for every branch of the Latta Family. Unfortunately, we do not have a Captain for every Branch. We could use some more volunteers. If interested, please contact Sue Lattea Cox, Branch 17, Coordinator of Branch Captains. The duties of a branch captain were spelled out in issue 27, Fall 2005, page 32. Here is a revised list of our branch captains, with names and addresses.

Branch 1: Ken Mueller, 7400 East Mule Circle, Prescott Valley AZ 86314, Doc Huer@aol.com. I also am your editor.

Branch 3: B. Mitchel Latta, 4703 NE 112th St., Vancouver WA 98686-4437, mlatta@interplususa.net.

Branch 4: Randy Phillips, 41 S. Morrell Ave., Geneva NY 14456, parting_glass65@yahoo.com.

Branch 6: Robert G. Nunn, 12 Dunbarton Court, Highlands Ranch CO 80126, rgunn@qwest.net.

Branch 7: Mr. Joshua J. Armstrong, 5060 Los Feliz Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90027, jjarmstrong@sbcglobal.net.

Branches 10 and 15, Cindy Stiene, 158 Intracoastal Dr., Madison AL 35758-7925, lmsjfs@knology.net.

Branch 12: Belinda J. Peterson, 43 Railway Pde, Murrumbeena, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia 3163, Peterson.belinda.j@edumail.vic.gov.au.

Branch 13, Gary Pokoradi, 11 Glenayr St., Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, L9C 7C1, pokerman@sympatico.ca.

Branch 14: Ian Latta, Ryedale House, Old Carlisle Rd., Moffat DG10 9QJ Scotland.

Branch 16: Alex Latta, 6104 94A Ave., 6830 42nd St., Edmonton, Alberta T6B 0Y8, allatta@gambit.ab.ca.

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FINANCIAL REPORT - LATTA GENEALOGY SOCIETY 4/30/07

TREASURER

Virginia Latta Curulla
4511 154th Place SE
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(425) 643 0309

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Tukwila WA 98168-4129
(206) 243 6217

REPORT PERIOD FROM 12/22/06 through 4/30/07

COMBINED FUNDS BALANCE as of 12/22/06:		\$ 5,226.52
N. IRELAND RESEARCH FUND BALANCE	\$ 950.00	
GENERAL FUND BALANCE	\$ 4,276.52	
<i>Income 12/22/06 through 4/30/07:</i>		\$ 1,126.70
N. IRELAND RESEARCH FUND – 0 donor	\$ 0.00	
GENERAL FUND – 58 donors	\$ 1,112.22	
Credit in PayPal account	14.26	
PayPal transaction credit	0.22	
<i>Expenses 12/22/06 through 4/30/07:</i>		(\$970.67)
Newsletter editor- reimburse exp. issue #30 & nsltr copies	\$ 665.41 ¹	
Internet Valueweb- Latta.org website connection fee	\$ 59.80	
Postage for response to IRS questions	\$ 14.40	
Renew domain name for 9 years with ValuWeb	\$ 119.25	
Annual registration with Washington Sec. of State	\$ 10.00	
Board conference call 12/17/06 billed Feb. 07 by Qwest	\$ 101.81	
COMBINED FUNDS ON HAND 4/30/07:		\$ 5,382.55
N. IRELAND RESEARCH FUND BALANCE	\$ 950.00	
GENERAL FUND BALANCE	\$4,432.55 ²	

NEW: Donate using the PayPal button on <latta.org> website: We now accept donations by credit card or PayPal account using a button on our website. This is a convenience especially appreciated by subscribers using other than U.S. funds.

Membership: The bylaws state, "Any person who supports the purpose of this Society may become a member in good standing upon payment of the minimum donation." The minimum donation currently is \$10 (U.S.) for subscribers within the U.S. & Canada. Minimum donation \$15 (U.S.) for other countries. Newsletter only status (non-voting) is provided for libraries and those interested in the newsletter but unable to make a donation.

Your donations support the publication and mailing of the newsletter and cover related expenses.

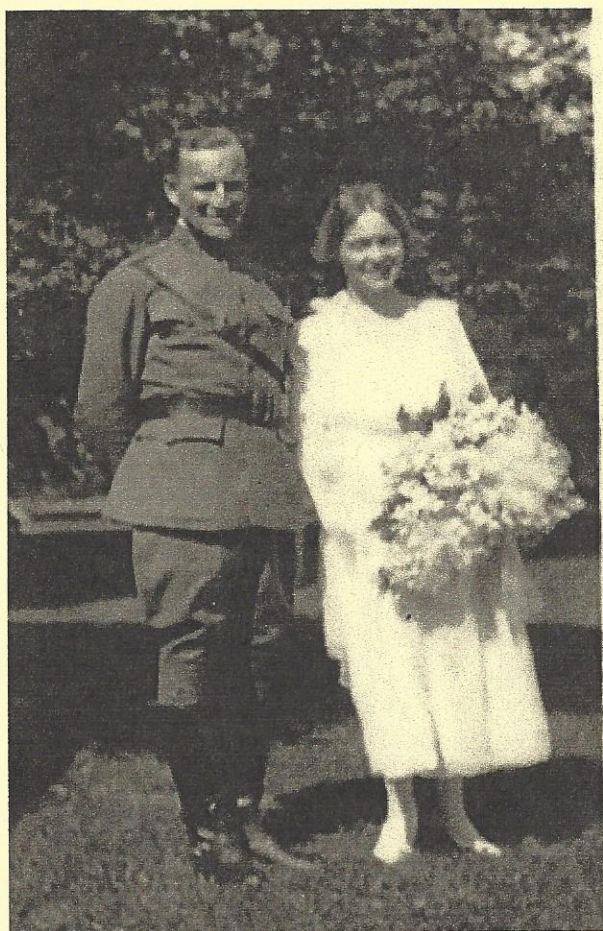
Donations received after 4/30/07 will be acknowledged in the next newsletter. Please direct any corrections, questions, or comments about donations or financial matters to the treasurer, Virginia Latta Curulla, address above. Thank you for your generosity.

¹ Expenses for issue #31 (you are reading it) have not been deducted.

² General fund balance will be approximately \$ 4,600 after deducting expenses for issue #31.

Rachel Latta Frank

(Continued from Page 1)



Harry Franck and Rachel Whitehill Latta on their wedding day in 1919.

catching fire going down a long hill.

By the time his German book went to press, she was pregnant and on the way to the West Indies. Miscalculations by everyone concerned required my father to deliver the baby at sea without any help except from a fellow passenger who had once delivered his own child.

More than two years in China (one baby, Katharine), a few years in mundane places like Long Beach New York (I always felt deprived) and Darien, Connecticut (Bill came next), then a spell in England (Peter trailing after). She finally convinced my father that we needed to put down roots and go to the same school for more than a few months. So they moved into the white house

at the end of North Main Street in New Hope, Pennsylvania. By the time our Paxton farmhouse was livable, it was 1934 and we were well ensconced in the area. Mother slaved over all of us and at the same time slaved over the typewriter, copying and recopying his manuscripts and reading galley proofs on her hands and knees on the living room floor.

Dad was away a lot, starting another travel book or doing a lecture tour. Sometimes she went along, leaving us with an odd relative for a time. Or he left her behind to do all the work. I remember the time we had a blizzard: we had Real snow in the Olden days! She put on a knapsack and snowshoes and walked to town. She asked the storekeeper which weighed less, rice or potatoes, and brought it back to us. I still do not remember which choice they made.

Dad went into the Army again in 1942, lying about his age (61) and mother went into the Office of Strategic Services, chasing leads all over the country to track down pictures which would make up a photographic mosaic of a town, allowing our invading soldiers to know just where a certain alley was in Paris or where certain landmarks were in Asia, all in case our troops needed such information.

After the war, there was no market for his kind of travel books. They went to Africa twice, six months for each trip, but the book never appeared.

They went on a few cruises as paid staff, but doing only the tourist bit was to them a travesty of the meaning of "travel." Then Dad developed Parkinsonism, which for a compulsive traveler was a tragedy indeed.

After his death in 1962, Rachel Franck became more active in the community, in Solebury Friends Meeting, and in the Farmer's Club. She lectured everywhere, especially with her hand-painted Chinese slides of 1922-24, the trip for which she had total recall.

She also acquired her most prized possession, a 1966 blue Buick convertible. "Sometimes, when I put it in the garage, I want to pat it on the nose and give it a lump of sugar." At 83, she also earned a B.A. from the State University of New York.

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Rachel Latta Franck

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Those of you who knew her only recently could still sense the flavor of her life. She was fully aware how lucky she was to escape the Chestnut Hill debutante/garden club/Colonial Dames syndrome, even though she never had to live in Michigan. And her need for permanent roots far eclipsed Dad's.

He sometimes referred to the place in New Hope as "that mudhole", but he tolerated it most of the time. For Rachel, it was her adored home. With all of us out of the house, she had only the squirrels, the deer, the groundhogs... and the raccoon who still opens our garbage can.

When she died on April 12, 1986, she had been active up until almost the end, with a lecture on March 1st to the Farmers Club, showing Dad's slides from his first trip in 1904-1905.

She did that one from a wheelchair, her ankle in a cast, valiantly trying to describe each scene (from a trip she had not taken) based on a rereading of his first book and with a flashlight aimed at a moth-eaten typed list identifying each slide. She still pulled in twice the normal attendance!

Jack Fisher put it just right in Silent Meeting on First Day morning, April 13. "I try to replace that terrible picture of her in her bed yesterday, by seeing Rachel instead racing down a long cosmic highway in a blue convertible with the top down!"

**Frank De Vere Latta,
Our Family Hero**

By John M. Latta, Branch 29,
Millbrae, California

I have been intending to write you for some time regarding my cousin, Commander Frank D. Latta USN, Commanding Officer of the WWII submarine USS LAGARTO. All of the publicity surrounding the recent discovery of the sunken wreck of LAGARTO in the Gulf of Siam has finally moved me to do so.

I was four years old, almost five, when the LAGARTO was lost. Seeing my mother crying at the phone upon learning the news is one of my earliest childhood recollections. Our being somewhat a Navy family, Frank De Vere Latta has been my hero ever since. And a hero he was. He was the recipient of both the Navy Cross (second for valor only to the Congressional Medal of Honor) and the Silver Star for his accomplishments as a submarine commander in WWII. I have since met several of his fellow skippers who knew him well (more on that below). He was universally popular with both his men and his contemporaries, and his wartime record does great credit to us all.

In addition to our family lore, I learned a lot about Frank from the history books and from conversations with those others who knew him. Among the many stories about him. I was told that he had a very unique mode of transportation when ashore. It seems that Frank owned a motorcycle, somewhat a rarity in those days, which he used to get around the various naval bases when in port. Then, when the boat was ready to depart, he had one of the machinists dismantle the bike and stow it aboard. Now, have you ever seen the inside of one of those boats? There was no room for anything but torpedoes, food and fuel! There were not even enough bunks for all of the crew. So where did he put it? Without exception, every one of the submariners I met from that era could not imagine. But he had a place, and he was known throughout the submarine service for that motorcycle.

Frank led all of the other sub skippers during the war in the number of "special missions" he conducted as a skipper; that is, the landing of supplies and Marine raiders on enemy held Pacific islands. Remember those John Wayne movies, surfacing in the dead of night and launching all those blackened faces into rubber boats, then coming back a few nights later to hopefully exchange flashlight signals and recover the survivors with their crucial intelligence? Well, that was Frank. Early in the war, he commanded the

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Frank De Vere Latta

(Continued from Page 5)

submarine NARWHAL which, along with only one other American boat, was large enough to accommodate a Marine detachment with all its gear. One of his (presumably understated) log entries during this period read, "These special missions are trying." Perhaps in response, Frank named the boat's four powerful diesel engines "Matthew," "Mark," "Luke," and "John."

LAGARTO was lost with all hands on her second war patrol in May of 1945 while on what was certainly an extremely hazardous mission. In order for a submarine of the day to successfully out-manuever the enemy, it needed to be operating in very deep water. LAGARTO was attacked in water that was not even as deep as the boat was long. The divers who recently discovered the wreck found that one of her outer torpedo doors was open, indicating that she had just fired on the enemy when the fatal blow was delivered. So she went down fighting, as we all would expect.

My Dad moved away from Iowa, where he and Frank were raised, after graduation from college in the early 1930s. He lost track of Frank as his naval career progressed. We did not know for sure if he had ever married, so we had no knowledge of his family, and as the years went by he faded from memory. Except for mine; he always remained my hero.

The 1960s brought Vietnam to the country and a draft notice to me. Partly remembering Frank and our naval legacy, I applied for acceptance into Naval Officer Candidate School. I distinctly remember standing in the office of a commander who was interviewing me for admission and looking at a picture on his wall of NARWHAL. After receiving my commission as an Ensign, I served in a destroyer in the Pacific, traversing the same waters as Frank had some twenty-five years earlier. I soon completed my formal connection with the Navy but it never left my blood.

When I moved to the San Francisco area in the mid-1990s, I was invited to join the Board of

Trustees of the San Francisco Maritime Museum Association. This association owned, restored and operates to this day the WWII submarine PAMPANITO as a museum and living memorial to the fifty-two U.S. submarines lost in the war. PAMPANITO is a sister ship of the LAGARTO. Given my connection with things naval, and the submarine service in particular, I was soon asked to serve on the association's PAMPANITO Committee. I will never forget my first meeting. Among those sitting around that table was a distinguished-looking, well-spoken gentleman named Ben Jarvis. As a result of my having joined the meeting late we had not met then, so I took the opportunity to introduce myself later in the parking lot. "Hi, I'm John Latta," I said, only to watch as all color drained completely from his face. After recovering somewhat, he explained his shock, and then it was my turn to be completely stunned.

Ben Jarvis had skippered the submarine BAYA late in the war, and had not only known Frank Latta well, but considered him a mentor. Most startling of all to me, however, was the fact was that he was certainly the last person, apart from the crew of LAGARTO, to see my cousin alive. LAGARTO joined up with BAYA on May 2, 1945, in the Gulf of Siam. The two boats rendezvoused on the morning of May 3, and cruising side-by-side the two skippers discussed the tactical situation across the quiet water between them without even the aid of megaphones. It was decided that LAGARTO would conduct an attack on the convoy later that same day while BAYA would proceed ahead to establish a position in advance of the approaching enemy. Then the boats parted for the last time. The next morning, BAYA was unable to establish contact with her sister, and LAGARTO was never heard from again.

After the war, Japanese naval records revealed that the minelayer HATSUTAKA, one of the convoy's escorts, had conducted a depth charge attack that same day on an American submarine in the location where LAGARTO was operating and where she would eventually be found some sixty years later, almost to the day. Captain Ben Jarvis,

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Frank De Vere Latta

(Continued from Page 6)

himself a highly decorated submarine officer, also told me the rest of the story. Frank had left a widow, Holly Woodward Latta, and two young sons, Michael and Patrick. Patrick had recently died, but Ben thought Michael lived nearby. Thus I discovered a cousin I never knew existed.

About two weeks later, I met with a somewhat skeptical Michael Latta to compare notes and establish whether or not we really were related. He did not know very much about the Latta family at all, his only connection with it having met his end when Mike was very young. But he brought stuff. We both brought stuff. And out of all this combined clutter, Mike produced a picture. He confessed that he did not know who any of the men in the picture were; his mother had only told him they were his family. But I knew who they were! The central character was my great grandfather, John P. Latta, a Civil War veteran, on the occasion of his and my great grandmother's 50th wedding anniversary in 1915. I recognized him because some of my own photos were taken that same day. Frank's grandfather, James Selkirk Latta, was also there as was my own, Frederick Garfield Latta. And also there, playing on the lawn in the lower right hand corner of Mike's photo, at aged 3, was my father, John Selzer Latta.

Following up on this remarkable series of events, Mike and I located Frank's half-brother, Douglas R. Latta, who lives in Newport, Oregon, and is a regular reader of The Latta Genealogy Newsletter. Today, Mike Latta is happily enjoying his retirement off the Pacific coast of Mexico aboard his sailboat, NARWHAL.

A small world indeed.

Reprints of Issues 1-30 of the Latta Genealogy Newsletter may be obtained at a cost of \$3.50 each by writing to the editor, Ken Mueller, 7400 East Mule Circle, Prescott Valley, Arizona, 86314. Please enclose your check made payable to the Latta Genealogy Society.

The First Alabama Cavalry U.S.V.

By Tom Kintigh, Tucson, Arizona,
tqkintigh@worldnet.att.net

I am somewhat of a Civil War buff; I have read numerous books on the war, visited battlefields and collected some memorabilia. Notations of Civil War service in genealogy information always catch my attention. So when I read in the Branch 43 history in the Fall 2006 Issue of The Latta Genealogy Newsletter about John Causlett Latta's Civil War service my curiosity was aroused. It said that he first served in the 57th Illinois Regiment and then became a Lieutenant in the 1st Alabama Cavalry. My initial reaction was Illinois then Alabama; did he switch sides? I decided to do some research and discovered there was a big gap in my Civil War knowledge.

What was missing in the 1st Alabama Cavalry designation were three letters: U.S.V., United States Volunteers. There was also another 1st Alabama Cavalry, C.S.A., (Confederate States of America). Despite what we were taught in history classes; the South was not solidly for secession. Just as there were Southern sympathizers in the North (commonly called Copperheads); there were large populations in the South that wanted to remain in the Union and many made their way north to enlist in the Union Army. After Grant's Army had been victorious in western Tennessee and northern Mississippi, the Federal government raised regiments of United States Volunteers among the southern loyalists.

The 1st Alabama Cavalry U.S.V. was a unique and distinguished unit. It was the first of six United States Volunteer regiments raised in Alabama and was composed of white southerners, freed slaves, men from border and northern states and men from foreign countries. Company officers were chosen among the members which might explain how John Causlett Latta, already a seasoned veteran, became a 1st Lieutenant. The regiment proved itself in during hard fighting in the Atlanta Campaign and as a

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The First Alabama Calvary, U.S.V.

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result, and also as a symbol of Southern loyalty, was chosen to be General Sherman's bodyguard on his march to sea. It continued with Sherman into the Carolinas and was at the center of a stunning Union Cavalry victory at Monroe's Crossroads. The regiment was present at Durham Station, North Carolina for the surrender of General John C. Breckinridge, the Confederate Secretary of War and a former Vice President of the United States, General Joseph E. Johnston and the last significant Confederate army; a more final end to the war than Lee's surrender at Appomattox. The 1st Alabama Cavalry U.S.V. was mustered out of service at Huntsville, Alabama on October 20th, 1865.

Captain John Causlett Latta and his regiment should not be so easily overlooked in American history.

Branches 32 and Branch 43 Combined

By Sue Lattea Cox, WVCox6@aol.com,
Branch Captain Coordinator

Branches 32 and 43 were recently combined into Branch 43. With information received from Rose Ann Latta of Amboy, Illinois, we were able to confirm that the William Latta, father of William Sparks Latta, of Bedford County, Pennsylvania, in Branch 43, was the same William Latta who was the brother of Ephraim Latta of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, of Branch 32. Since Branch 32 was a smaller branch, that information was combined into Branch 43. The information that Rose Ann sent us pertained to the estate of William Latta, a Waggoner who traveled across Pennsylvania, and who died on the Greensburg to Philadelphia Run at an Inn run by Dawn and James Reed in Bedford County, Pennsylvania. William Latta was in partnership with his brothers, Samuel and Ephraim in the business. William Latta was not

married, but had a son by Sarah Sparks of Bedford. Sarah's son, William Sparks Latta, was 5 years old at the time of his father's death, and his estate was moved from Bedford County to Westmoreland County so that Ephraim Latta could settle the estate. William Latta was 40 years old at the time of his death.

One piece of information can make a big difference in combining our branches together. If you run across any information that you believe is helpful to us in our research, please forward it on to us. Thank you Rose Ann for your contribution.

Sons of William Ramsey Latta

By: David Hause, Halifax, Pennsylvania,
djhause21@comcast.net

I just visited the Latta web page and I found there is no Captain for branch #9. My name is David Hause and I do genealogy research on the Reitz surname. I have some additional information for two of William Ramsey Latta's sons who married Reitz sisters. I also hope you could put me in contact with some one that might help me contact some living Lattas connected with these two brothers. Here is what I have:

This is William Harley Latta, he married Bertha Maude Reitz.

CENSUS: 1910 Census: Kansas City Ward 4,
Wyandotte Co., Kansas, ED 172, Sheet 5B, Dated:
18 Apr 1920, Enumerator: Anna R Goreman
Address 1252 Sundusky
Dwelling #122, Family #126

Milliam (sic William) Latta, 33, rents, b: OK,
father b: Carolina, mother b: Virginia, Clerk, Post
Office

Butha (Sic Bertha), wife, 27, m: once for 2 yrs.,
b: KS, both parents b: PA, no children listed.

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Sons of William Ramsey Latta

(Continued from Page 8)

DRAFTCARD: World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918

Name: William Harley Latta
City: Grand? Junction
County: Mesa
State: Colorado
Birth Date: 24 Jan 1877
age: 41
Employer: U S Treasury
Nearest Relative: Bertha M Latta (Wife)
Dated: 12 Sep 1918

BURIAL: Crystal Valley Cemetery, Manitou Springs, El Paso Co., CO**Cemetery Records**

LATTA, Wm. Harley, b: 1877, d: 1921, Block: 002, Lot: 009

Source: <http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/co/elpaso/cemeteries/manitou/cryvlp00.txt>

Here is what I could find on his wife. No children for these two:

CENSUS: 1930 Census: Colorado Springs, El Paso, Colorado

John S Godfrey 34
William Colburn 2/12
Marie L Woodell 26
Marilyn M Woodell 2 2/12
Wallace M Woodell 4/12
Margaret M Grady 27
Emily Pantovich 17
Bertha M Latta 47, Widow, b: KS, both Parents
b: PA, Saleslady, Curio Store.
Marie R Zuba 50
Mark Fitzgerald 40

BIOGRAPHY: worked in an Indian jewelry store in Colorado Springs for years.

BURIAL: Crystal Valley Cemetery, Manitou Springs, El Paso Co., CO

Cemetery Records

LATTA, Bertha Maude, b: 1882, d: 1943, block: 002, Lot: 009

Source: <http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/co/elpaso/cemeteries/manitou/cryvlp00.txt>

Here is William's brother Ross Ferrel Latta. Rose married Lenora Reitz:

DRAFTCARD: World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918

Name: Ross Forrel Latta
City: Mt Harris
County: Routt
State: Colorado
Age; 40
Birth Date: 5 Aug 1878
Address: Mt. Harris, Routt Co., CO.
Nearest Relative: Mrs. Leonora Latta
Dated: 12 Sep 1918
Book keeper, Colo Utah supply co.

BIOGRAPHY: 25 Ross Ferrell (5) Latta,

William R. (4) John (3) Thomas (2) John (1). Born at Maywood, Wyandotte Co., Kan. August 5, 1878; Died: Dec. 19, 1919. At: Mount Harris, Colorado. Buried: Manitou, Colorado. m. Leonora L. Reitz, sister to brother William's wife, June 22, 1909 at Kansas City, Kan. where she was born July 29, 1884. After the death of Ross she remarried in January 1930. In 1918 Ross was bookkeeper in Water Department at Colorado Springs, Colorado. Children:

133 HERBERT SHIELDS (6) b. at Colorado Springs May 21, 1914.

134 BRUCE FERRELL (6) b. at Colorado Springs January 8, 1916

Source: <http://www.latta.org/Branches/Branch%209.htm>

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Sons of William Ramsey Latta

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The above note from the Latta web site has been corrected to show 1930 for Leonora's second marriage. See below for 1930 census.

BURIAL: Crystal Valley Cemetery, Manitou Springs, El Paso Co., CO

Cemetery Records

LATTA, Ross T. (SIC F), b: 1879, d: 1919,
Block: 002, Lot: 009

Source: <http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/co/elpaso/cemeteries/manitou/cryvlp00.txt>

Here is the information I have on Ross's wife
Lenora Reitz:

1930 Census: Wichita City, Sedgwick Co.,
Kansas, ED 55, Sheet 6B, Dated: 9 April 1930,
Enumerator: Mrs. Grace E Jones

Address: 140 North Spruce

Dwelling #143, Family #154

Walter J Harding, 58, owns home \$4,800, has a
radio, m: at age 21, b: Ill., Road Master, Steam
Railroad

Lenora L Harding, wife, 45, m: at age 25, b:
KS, both parents b: PA

Shields H Latta, son, 15, b: CO, both parents b:
KS, Carrier, Street Newspaper

Brace (sic Bruce) T Latta, son, 14, b: CO, both
parents b: KS

Walter Harding, son, 15, b: KS, father b: Ill,
mother b: Arkansas, Carrier, Street Newspaper

DEATH: California Death Index, 1940-1997

Name: Harding, Lenora Loellen

Social Security #: 0

Sex: Female

Birth Date: 29 Jul 1884

Birthplace: KANSAS

Death Date: 29 Aug 1945

Death Place: Santa Barbara

Mother's Maiden Name: Newberry

Father's Surname: Reitz

BURIAL: Crystal Valley Cemetery, Manitou
Springs, El Paso Co., CO

Cemetery Records

Lenora (Reitz) Latta-Harding, she is buried
with her first husband. She was named after her
mother Lenora Loellen Newberry.

HARDING, Lenora L., b: 1884, d: 1945, Block:
002, Lot: 009

Source: <http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/co/elpaso/cemeteries/manitou/cryvlp00.txt>

Here is what I have on Ross' two sons:

DEATH: Name: Latta, Shields Herbert

Social Security #: 511125733

Sex: Male

Birth Date: 21 May 1914

Birthplace: COLORADO

Death Date: 28 Jul 1990

Death Place: Santa Clara

Mother's Maiden Name: Rietz

Name: Shields Latta

SSN: 511-12-5733

Born: 21 May 1914

Died: 28 Jul 1990

State (Year) SSN issued: Kansas (Before 1951)

OBITUARY: Bruce Ferrel Latta

Memorial services for Bruce Ferrel Latta, 87, of
Tulsa, Okla., and former resident of Pecan Planta-
tion, will be held today, Thursday, Dec. 11, 2003,
at the Kirk of the Hills Presbyterian Church in
Tulsa, Okla.

The geologist died Sunday, Dec. 7, 2003 in
Tulsa, Okla. He was born Jan 8, 1916 in Colorado
City, Colo.

He and Maxine Latta were married June 10,
1939. They were the parents of two sets of twins.

The avid watercolor artist and photographer
was a member of the Pecan Plantation computer
club and the Acton United Methodist Church.

His wife and a son preceded him in death.

Survivors are a son, two daughters, eight grand-
children and three great-grandchildren.

(Continued on Page 11)

Sons of William Ramsey Latta

(Continued from Page 10)

It is requested memorials be made to the Salvation Army.

Source: Hood County News, Texas
(Dec/14/2003)

DEATH: Name: Bruce F. Latta
SSN: 514-07-3092
Last Residence: 74133 Tulsa, Tulsa, Oklahoma, United States of America
Born: 8 Jan 1916
Died: 7 Dec 2003
State (Year) SSN issued: Kansas (Before 1951)

Bruce Ferrel Latta must have been a well known geologist in the State of Kansas, from 1939 till 1973. His works are sited in many geology reports. One of his publications is on line at the web address: <http://www.kgs.ku.edu/General/Geology/Finney/index.html>

The Death of Charles R. Latta

By Jody Poljanski and Charles Penley
jpoljanski@sympatico.ca

My friend, Charles Penley, a twenty-two year veteran of the US Army sent me the below information, pertaining to Major Charles R. Latta, who was killed in action, at Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon, Vietnam, on Aug 09, 1967. My friend Charles is also the webmaster of a website; the 'un-official' homepage of the Tan Son Nhut, Air Base, 377th Combat Security Police Squadron, Republic of Vietnam, which is dedicated to all of the brave men and women that served on the installation from 1961 - 1973.

When I found this Charles R. Latta listed on his website, I e-mailed my friend, Charles Penley, and asked if he personally knew this man. Though he did not personally know him, I was surprised that

he was able to provide me with all of this information.

Charles R. Latta, is one of over 58,000 men and women, named on the Vietnam Wall. His name is on panel 24E, line 95, located in Washington DC.

Charles R. Latta, is also named on the Tan Son Nhut Association, Memorial web page at URL:
<http://www.tsna.org/memorial/index.html>

Name: Maj Charles R. Latta
Status: Killed In Action from an incident on 08/09/1967 while performing the duty of Pilot.
Age at death: 36.5
Date of Birth: 02/17/1931
Home City: Gadsden, Alabama
Service: IN branch of the reserve component of the U.S. Army.
Unit: 175 AHC
Major organization: other
Service: IN branch of the U.S. Army,
The Wall location: 24E-095
Short Summary: Mid-air with Air Force jet near Saigon.
Aircraft: UH-1D tail number 66-01099
Call sign: Outlaw
Service number: O4031404
Country: South Vietnam
MOS: 1981 = 19 Rotary Wing Aviator (Unit Commander)
Primary cause: Mid-Air w/ jet
Major attributing cause: aircraft connected not at sea
Compliment cause: unknown or not reported
Vehicle involved: helicopter
Position in vehicle: pilot
Started Tour: 01/02/1967
"Official" listing: helicopter air casualty - other aircrew
Length of service: 16
Location: Unknown Province
Reason: aircraft lost or crashed
Casualty type: Non-hostile - died while missing married male U.S. citizen
Race: Caucasian
Religion: Protestant - no denominational preference

(Continued on Page 12)

The Death of Charles R. Latta

(Continued from Page 11)

The following information secondary, but may help in explaining this incident.

Category of casualty as defined by the Army:
non-battle dead Category of personnel: active duty
Army Military class: officer

This record was last updated on 08/08/1999
(U.S. Government Archives)

Helicopter UH-1D 66-01099

Information on U.S. Army helicopter UH-1D
tail number 66-01099

The Army purchased this helicopter 0167

Total flight hours at this point: 00000303

Date: 08/09/1967

Incident number: 670809131

ACD Accident case number: 670809131

Total loss or fatality Accident Unit: 175 AHC
South Vietnam

Number killed in accident = 5 . . Injured = 0 . .
Passengers = 2

costing 556954

Original source(s) and document(s) from which
the incident was created or updated:

Defense Intelligence Agency Helicopter Loss
database.

Army Aviation Safety Center database.

Also: OPERA (Operations Report.)

Loss to Inventory

Crew Members:

P Maj Latta Charles R KIA

P 1LT Sodaitis George Frank KIA

CE SP4 Kooman Gary Roger KIA

G SP4 Hopper Gerald Lee KIA

Passengers and/or other participants:

PVT Mcrae William Joseph, AR, PX, KIA

CIV Degnan Jerry, CV, PX, KIA

Accident Summary:

Description of the accident: The US Army UH-1D departed Vinh Long Air Field at 0942 hours, on a valid flight clearance to Can Tho Air Field, Bear Cat Air Field, Long Binh, and due for a direct return to Vinh Long. The UH-1D departed the 24th Field Hospital Heliport at approximately 1554

hours, in a northwesterly direction. It continued to climb while executing a gentle right turn to avoid built up areas and the normal heavy air traffic in the Long Binh area. The climb and turn were continued until a south to southwest course was established and an estimated altitude of 1500 - 1800 feet MSL reached. Within a maximum of one minute from the time the course was established, at 1557 hours, an Air Force RF-101, which was being vectored to a GCA final at Tan Son Nhut Air Base, collided with the left top side of the UH-1D. The collision disintegrated the UH-1D's main rotor system and tore off the tail pylon at about station 270. The UH-1D fell in a southwesterly direction, nosing down and over, losing pieces of the air frame and other material stowed in the cabin section. The aircraft commander and gunner of the UH-1D were either thrown or jumped clear of the helicopter before impact. The UH-1D struck the ground in a nose down inverted attitude completely demolishing the helicopter. A post impact fire ensued gutting all the wreckage except the pilot's compartment. After the collision the RF-101 experienced a flame out of the right engine. Full power on left engine failed to produce sufficient flying speed to control the aircraft. The RF-101 continued on a course of approximately 250 degrees and descending. The aircraft started to nose over uncontrolled at approximately 175 knots IAS. The pilot elected to eject. The ejection was successful although the pilot received major injuries from landing on his back. The RF-101 impacted in a level attitude approximately 3 1/2 miles from the assumed collision point and 3 miles from the UH-1D impact point.

This record was last updated on 09/20/1998
(U.S. Government Archives)

William Ray Latta, 1862-1941

By Mary Jane Latta Fultz, Branch 3,
MJF@provalue.net

I lived with William Ray Latta's widow after

(Continued on Page 13)

William Ray Latta, 1862-1941

(Continued from Page 12)

his death for about six years. I personally knew him and both of his wives and all six of his sons. We lived in a small town of 311, and five of his sons lived there at least for a time. All of these people, except his son William Ray (nee Reginald Ray) are buried at the cemetery at Fort Laramie, Wyoming.

Husband: William Ray Latta, born 26 April 1862 at Rock Bluff, Cass County, Nebraska Territory to Robert Ray Latta and Mary Anna Cain. William Ray Latta died 26 September 1941 in Fort Laramie, Wyoming. He is buried in the Fort Laramie Cemetery there.

William Ray Latta married Anna May Rupp on 4 April 1886 in Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Colorado. They were divorced.

Anna May Rupp was born in 1866 in Iowa. She died in 1945 in Scottsbluff, Nebraska, and is buried in Fort Laramie, Wyoming. She and William had three sons:

1. William Ray (nee Reginald Ray) Latta, born 10 Feb. 1887 in Cripple Creek, Colorado. He married Mary McCoy on 6 April 1906 in Washington Court House, Ohio. He died in Dayton, Ohio. William legally changed his name to William Ray Latta. We called him Uncle Ray. The other family members called him Uncle Bill. He married a twin from Washington Courthouse, Ohio. The two couples had a heating and air conditioning business for many years. They lived together all their married life. They had no children, but the other couple did.

2. Harry Eldridge Latta, born 12 January 1892 in Florissant, Colorado. His spouses were Eva R. Laughlin and Irma Tole, a widow. Harry died in 1941 in Scottsbluff, Scottsbluff County, Nebraska.

3. Thomas Clifford Latta, born 19 October 1895 in Cripple Creek, Colorado. He married Lois G. Bay in Wheatland, Platte County, Wyoming. Thomas died 19 January 1962 in Scottsbluff, Nebraska, and is buried in the Fort Laramie Cemetery,

Goshen County, Wyoming. Thomas Latta learned the trade of watchmaker and worked for many years in Scottsbluff, Nebraska.

In the 1900 U. S. Census of Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Colorado, William Ray Latta (1862-1941) was living with his parents. Anna and the children were living in a separate residence. She said she was divorced. He said he was single.

William Ray Latta (1862-1941) married again on 9 January 1901 to Daisy Marguerite (Pearl) Bryant in Denver, Arapahoe County, Colorado. They divorced, and Daisy married Charles Garner on 4 September 1915 in Clayton, New Mexico. But Daisy divorced Charles, and married William again on 2 April 1921 in Denver, Colorado.

Daisy Bryant was born 2 September 1883 in Otterville, Missouri, the daughter of William Wesley Bryant and Cora Belle Day. Daisy died on 23 April 1946 in Torrington, Goshen County, Wyoming. She is buried in the Fort Laramie Cemetery in Goshen County, Wyoming. William and Daisy had three sons:

1. William Alexander Latta, born 3 August 1902 in Fountain, El Paso County, Colorado. He married Daisy Mildred Hendrickson on 26 December 1925 at Fort Laramie, Goshen County, Wyoming. William died 3 December 1986 in Torrington, Goshen County, Wyoming. He is also buried in the Fort Laramie Cemetery.

2. Robert Day Latta, born 11 January 1905 in Spokane, Washington. He is also buried in the Fort Laramie Cemetery.

3. Jackson Joaquin Latta was born 13 February 1907 in Garrison, Missouri. He was married to Laura May Snell. Jackson is also buried in the Fort Laramie Cemetery.

William Ray Latta (1862-1941) and Daisy Bryant also adopted a girl, May Laughlin, in Taney County, Missouri. May's parents, John and Lundy Laughlin, had died.

Northern Ireland Research Project Task Force Researching the Ancestry of Irish Lattas aka TRAILS

By Cathi Vannice, Vice-President Research,
cjazz@comcast.net

In 2000, under the leadership of Virginia Curulla, the Latta Genealogy Society began researching the Latta origins in Northern Ireland. One professional genealogist gave an estimate of \$10,000 to do a thorough Latta study in Northern Ireland. Obviously this was more money than this organization had in the treasury or could hope to raise.

It was decided to hire Sherry Irvine, a Certified Genealogist with special expertise in Irish research. She task was to write a research plan for this project. Society volunteers did the research using microfilms from the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. A database was developed to keep track of the names, dates, locations, and the source of the information. Maps were prepared in 50 year intervals, to track the locations where the Latta surname was found. Using this information deeds, probate, church, military and estate records could be searched.

In 2002, Virginia sent the results of the first phase of research to Sherry, who then updated the research plan based on what was learned. Last fall Virginia asked me to coordinate the Northern Ireland research project. Now we need your help again. Volunteers will order and read microfilm at their local Family History Center (found at the Mormon or Church of the Latter-Day Saints). I have a list of films that need to be researched waiting for volunteers. If you have any questions please contact me at the email address below or send me a note that you would like to participate. No one needs to be an expert to help with this project.

Please consider being a volunteer. My mailing address and e-mail address are on Page 3. Thank you.

Genealogical Standards and Guidelines: Standards For Sound Genealogical Research

By The National Genealogical Society

Remembering always that they are engaged in a quest for truth, family history researchers consistently—

- 1) Record the source of each item of information they collect.
- 2) Test every hypothesis or theory against credible evidence, and reject those that are not supported by evidence.
- 3) Seek original records, or reproduced images of them when there is reasonable assurance they have not been altered, as the basis for their research conclusions.
- 4) Use compilations, communications and published works, whether paper or electronic, primarily for their value as guides to locating the original records, or as contributions to the critical analysis of the evidence discussed in them.
- 5) State something as a fact only when it is supported by convincing evidence, and identify the evidence when communicating the fact to others.
- 6) Limit with words like “probable” or “possible” any statement that is based on less than convincing evidence, and state the reasons for concluding that it is probable or possible.
- 7) Avoid misleading other researchers by either intentionally or carelessly distributing or publishing inaccurate information.
- 8) Recognize the collegial nature of genealogical research by making their work available to others through publication, or by placing copies in appropriate libraries or repositories, and by welcoming critical comment.
- 9) Consider with open minds new evidence or the comments of others on their work and the conclusions they have reached.

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Lattas Buried in Alberta, Canada Cemeteries

Gathered from the Alberta Genealogy Society located in Edmonton, Alberta.

And from some news clippings My Aunt Izola Mottershead had tucked away!

Submitted by Kathy & Alex. Latta, Branch 16, lattakj@telusplanet.net.

Alexander Lockhart (Snr.), DOD-1969, Evergreen Mem. Gardens, Edmonton Br. 16.

Anne Georgine Alice, DOD-1979, Wetaskiwin Old Cemetery, Branch unkn.

..... (nee Dahms)

Annie M., DOInt.-1942, Glenwood Cemetery, Edson, Br. ? 50/13 ?

Anson, DOD-1922, Glenwood Cemetery, Edson Branch 13.

Baby Latta, DOD-1933, Edmn. Cem, 107th Ave, N. Edmonton Branch 16.

Bradley Richard, DOD-1989, Edmonton Cem. Branch 16.

Catherine Jessica, DOD-1983, Sacred Heart Cem. St. Albert Trail Branch 16.

..... (Sp.#1, Alex. L. Snr. nee Lennert)

Clarissa, DOD-1938, Cowley Cemetery (Sp. Geo. Henry) Branch 13.

David Benjamin, DOD-1949 Edmonton Cem, Branch 16.

David Gilliland(Snr.), DOD-1948 Edmn. Cem. (Sp-Emily) Branch 16.

David G. (Jr.), DOD-1984 Evergreen Mem. Grdn., (Sp-Rosemarie) Branch 16.

E.W. Baby, DOInt.-1922, Glenwood Cemetery, Edson Branch 13 ?

Elgie Ward, DOD-1945, Edmonton Cemetery 107 Ave (Sp-Julia) Branch 13.

Emily, DOD-1955 Edmn. Cem, (Sp-David G. Snr.) Branch 16.

Emily Isabella, DOD-1915 Edmn. Cem. Branch 16.

Eva Alfreda, DOD-1955, Evergreen Mem. Gardens, Edmonton. (Sp. Renwick) Branch 50.

George Henry, DOD-1899, Cowley Cemetery (Sp. Clarissa). Branch 13.

Gordon Gaynor, DOD-1922, Edmn. Cem. Branch 16.

Grace, DOD-1971, Evergreen Mem. Grdn., Edmn (Sp#2 Alex. L. Snr.) Branch 16.

Jessie, DOD-1899, Edmn. Cem.,(Sp-Dav. G. Snr.) Branch 16.

John Campbell, DOD-1964, Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, 106 St S. Edmonton

... Cem. On internet, Had 5 daughters. He was born in Belfast Ireland. Branch unkn.

Julia Ellen, DOD-1978, Edmn. Cemetery (Sp. Elgie) Branch 13.

Lillian Margaret, DOD-1996, Cemetery not mentioned,(Sp-William) Branch 16

Mary Anne, DOD-1966, Mt. Pleasant C., (on the internet) Edmonton Br. Unk.

Mike, DOD-2003 St. Albert City Cem. Br. Unkn.

Minnie, DOD-1904, Edmonton Cem., Branch 16.

Renwick B., DOD-1964, Evergreen Mem. Gardens, Edmn. Branch 50.

Richard Charles, DOD-1996, Park Mem Cem., Calgary (Sp-Sanda) Branch 16

Rosemarie, DOD-2003/?04 Evergreen Mem. Grdn.(Sp-Dav.G. Jr.) Branch 16

Ruth Isabelle, DOD-1946, Edmonton Cem., Branch 16.

Thomas Campbell Kerr, DOD-1977, Edmonton Cem., Branch unkn.

Walter Scott Jr., DOD 1993, Edmonton Cem. Branch 16.

Wayne Bruce, DOD-1992, Cem. Not mentioned Branch 16.

William B., DOD-1973, Edmonton Cem., Branch 16.

Latte, Susan Karin, DOInt.-1963, Mt. Pleasant Cem. Edmonton Branch unkn.

Looking for George and Clarissa

From Quebec through Ontario and
Saskatchewan to Alberta

Submitted by Kathy Latta, Branch 16,
lattakj@telusplanet.net.

Recently I had cause to go to the Alberta Genealogy Society (AGS), located in Edmonton, Alberta to look for Lattas interred within our provincially located cemeteries. I posted a portion of what I found on the Latta-L list. While at AGS I had been informed that you can look up Saskatchewan Homesteads on-line now. I had previously purchased a disc, titled "HOME-A Saskatchewan Settlement Record", which allowed me to do this a few years ago. The disc is available through the Town of Goodwater, Saskatchewan, or through Co-op Gas Stations which I believe hold the retail rights, for approximately \$20.00 Canadian. Judy Scott (Br. 13) from Ontario e-mailed me with a request for information regarding George Henry and Clarissa (nee Shepherd) Latta who are buried at the Cowley Cemetery. I mentioned the internet site SaskHomesteads.com so that she could see for herself the record of a Land Grant being issued to George Henry Latta issued 1887, August 15 in the Rural Municipality (R.M.) of Abernathy # 186. There are differences in the amount of information available on the disc compared to the internet site. I will explain them at the end of this tale.

To start with we know that George Henry Latta was born in the Huron County of Ontario, one of four siblings. Clarissa Shepherd was born 1864 in the County of Argenteuil, Quebec, one of eight siblings. Two of her siblings spent their last days and were interred in Montreal, Quebec. Another at Portage La Prairie in Manitoba, and four siblings including Clarissa were interred at Cowley, Alberta. As mentioned above a grant was issued to George at harvest time and by 22 January 1888 he and Clarissa were married. I expect that they would have been married near her parents and her sister was to be married in July of the same year.

One could speculate they may have tarried to see the nuptials and then travel with the new couple to Portage La Prairie, Manitoba. They may have been traveling as a group since two brothers and another sister also ended up in Cowley. Brother William was married in Cowley in 1893.

Judy asked why did they leave Saskatchewan? I have family farming in Saskatchewan and so I related to her some things I heard from my Uncle Ian and from my father's family. There were many challenges to farming in Saskatchewan, prairie fires four years in a row made it difficult for my Great Grandfather, David G. Latta (Br.16) to continue sheep farming and by that time talk of a gold rush spurred him to sell the sheep, nothing to eat after the fire!, and move to Edmonton. Over the years "The Dirty Thirties, The Great Depression, The Spanish Epidemic of 1918, the Rural Isolation Effect of big farms"- all have had a negative influence on the population of Saskatchewan, even till today. My Uncle once told me, when he was growing up there were about 43 active tenanted farms between his farm and the city of Weyburn. Now there are 5 farms and only two are lived on. If you stop and ask directions in Saskatchewan today, you will probably knock on the door of an elderly farmer and his wife, who will ask if you are looking for property and do you have any children! This happened to me when I tried looking for my friends newly acquired land near Sonningdale.

Anyway, to tie this up. To access all the bits and pieces for this tale I used the internet site, the disc and the cemetery records from AGS, as well as the IGI site for Clarissa's family background. Judy was intrigued by my speculation about taking a crop off in August and then getting married in January.

Now to discuss the differences of the internet site compared with the disc, which by the way was developed because so many started in Saskatchewan but did not stay there! Both can be searched by a name or by a legal description. The disc however provides more information like the grant number and date of issue, as well as the R.M. district number. It is also cross referenced with a 2005 grid road

(Continued on Page 17)

Looking for George and Clarissa

(Continued from Page 16)

map. The disc's weak point is that the internet site lists all people who worked any parcel of land to the point where a grant was issued. Sometimes there was more than one grant issued and I suspect that after the issuance the farm may have been abandoned for some reason as suggested above. The disc only lists those grants that actually were issued. So it is good to check both out. With the disc you can see a map down to the ¼ section and see who the neighbors are! While on the internet site you can see a family may have tried farming in several areas before settling on the final Homestead. You can not print a map off the disc, it takes too much memory to do so. Just get a map from MapQuest and transfer what you need. To access the grant number and date of issuance go to the map and click on the section. A window will pop up with the data. One thing to note is that at both sites there are a lot of typo's and misinterpretation of hand writing from the grants. For example my Great Grandfather David G. is listed as David F. In Br.13 (165) Charles Barrell Latta is listed as Charles Banell Latta. Well I have enjoyed working with these bits and pieces of information and I encourage anyone who had relatives go from one side of Canada to the other to possibly check out Saskatchewan as a midpoint stop-off!

For the next issue, Judy Scott and I are working on a timeline for George Latta, his wife Clarissa, and her siblings.

Was your state, providence, or area was a midpoint in the migration of some Latta families? Please write to me, your editor, and let me know what you have found. We want to share such vital information with all of our fellow Latta researchers through our newsletter. My address is on Page 2.

List of Branch Captains

(Continued from Page 2)

Branches 17 & 43 & 46: Sue Lattea Cox, 6 Woodhill Ave., Salem WV 26426, WVCox6@aol.com,

Branch 18: Mrs. Sue D. Martine, 3906 E. Simpson Rd., Gilbert AZ, 85297-9402, susea@qwest.net.

Branches 19 & 27/47: Ellen Rowan Taylor, 2763 Glen-garry Way, Sierra Vista AZ 85650, ellenrt@cox.net.

Branch 22: Robert M. Hawkins, 520 Audubon Place Ct., Manchester MO 63021, Bob-hawk507@sbcglobal.net.

Branch 28: Carol Rini, 621 Villa Drive, Red Bluff CA 96080, carri137@gmail.com.

Branch 29: Marsha L. Frey, P.O. Box 306, McComb OH 45858-0306, MFrey223@woh.rr.com.

Branch 35: Janie Quarles, P.O. Box 624, McCrory AR 72101-0624, janieq@ipa.net.

Branch 45: Beryl Redfield, 4281 Winfield Rd., Taylorsville UT 84123-2344, Bredf331@comcast.net.

Branch 49: Stanley R. Latta, P.O. Box 998, Alamo-gordo, NM 88311, Reddog@wayfarer1.com.

Branch 51: Ken Erdle, 7890 Wexford Ct., Bloomington IN 47408, k.erdle@att.net.

Branch 52: Connie G. Latta, 11931 Lambert Ave., El Monte CA 91732-2031, Somesup@aol.com.

The editor encourages those members of the Latta Genealogy Society who do not know their branch number to send in an article about their Latta ancestors, so that fellow researchers can connect you to a branch and related family. My address is on Page 2.

Research Queries, Replies and Notes. Send your queries to the editor, Ken Mueller, 7400 E. Mule Circle, Prescott Valley AZ 86314, Doc Huer@aol.com.

For future Queries, the editor suggests that the contributor include both e-mail and snail mail addresses, as not all researchers have Internet access.

1. I am the son of James Ronald **Latta**, born 27th September 1914 in Arkansas, passed away March 1957 aged 43 years. Buried in Winona, Texas. Was a member of the 3rd Bomber Group, 5th Air Force stationed in Charters Towers 1942-43 may have been posted to New Guinea. My name is James Ronald **Latta** born in 1943 in Charters Towers, Queensland, Australia. My mothers name was Violet Maud **Sprake** also born in Charters Towers 1924. I have 5 children and 9 grandchildren. I would like to add them and myself to the **Latta** Family Records. My mother's divorce may have been granted after the war through Government Decree. James **Latta** (Ron), Unit 18 - 35 Bruce Street, Wagga Wagga, New South Wales 2650 Australia.

2. My name is Larry Joe **Minick**. I am the son of George L **Minick**, mother's name was Betty Reed **Minick** she was the second oldest child of Troy **Reed** and mother Marie **Latta Reed** who was the daughter of Hugh Thomas **Latta** mother Dolly **Latta** who were descendants of the tribe of **Lattas** who originated in the Lord's Vineyard. Now presently located in Prairie Grove, Arkansas, I spent a lot of my youth around Morrow as well as Lincoln. For the most part the **Lattas** were good people. I had no idea it had spread this far and I have no idea what part of the **Latta** clan that puts me? Larry Joe **Minick**, redlite@cox.net, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

3. My name is Francis **Tuttle**. My husband's name is Erick David **Tuttle**, birth name Eric D. **Latta** born on 10-29-1984 and was adopted to a family in Little Rock, Arkansas at the age of 2 and is wanting any information to help him find his parents. He does know that he has a sister who is 2 years younger then he and any information will help. Thank you. frantuttle22@aol.com.

4. I studied with a Hugh **Latta** (medical student) in 1939 at Chelsea Polytechnic. He later went to Edinburgh University and we lost touch. Is he still alive? I would like to contact him if it is at all possible. My name in those days was Ruth **Arnold**. Ruth.Armley@btopenworld.com.

5. Good morning! I came across The Latta Genealogy Newsletter this morning, and after reading a bit, was wondering where I could procure a copy of The **Latta Name: The British Connection** by Geoffrey W. **Latta**. I'm very interested in learning about my ancestor's origins, and until coming across the newsletter I knew very little. Upon asking my father, Allen Jay **Latta**, he always said "Irish or Scottish" but I wanted a little more clarification than that. To be honest, part of the reason I started searching today is because I plan on attending the Highland Games at Stone Mountain, right outside of Atlanta, GA in October, and I wanted to be able at least answer questions about my heritage if anyone asked. I had no idea that there were a few **Latta** coats of arms! The site has been very informative. Thank you for taking the time to read this and I hope to hear from you soon! Kelly **Latta**, Receptionist, **McAngus, Goudelock & Courie, LLC**, 78 Wentworth St., Ste 200, Charleston, SC 29402, 843-534-0101, www.mgclaw.com.

6. I wish to correspond with any other members of **Latta** Branch 31. Bill **Latta**, KCBill43@aol.com.

7. Are you aware of any connection between the **Latta** family and one Aaron **Brintnell** born 1841 or 1842 either in Syracuse NY or Mariposa, Ontario? Joye, pjhpj17@webtv.net.

8. Yesterday I was sitting in my car parked at a shopping centre. A car attempting to exit from the parking lot made contact with my rear bumper causing some damage. The driver of this car appeared to be in his late 80's. We exchanged personal information for insurance purposes and he asked whether I was related to a John **Latta** who had been a decorated fighter pilot with the Royal Air Force during the Battle of Britain. He was referring to John Blandford **Latta** (Branch 34) who was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross in 1941 and disappeared over the North Sea in January, 1942. His body was never recovered. The elderly gentleman had flown in the same squadron with John and said he often thinks of him after all these years. He also said he is thinking of voluntarily terminating his driver's license. Keith **Latta**, Victoria, BC, klatta@shaw.ca.

(Continued on Page 20)

Our Financial Contributors since the last issue. We really appreciate your support!
If there is a number before the name, it is that person's branch number. The editor suggests that the reader contact researchers of the same branch and share information.

We now accept PayPal donations from the button on our website. We have received one donation so far, and it seems to work fine. Our web site is: <http://www.latta.org>.

3. Mr. Ralph W. Allen, Unpublished.
9. Ms. Jackay Burnside, 598 Sycamore Dr., Conroe TX 77302-1093.
50. Mrs. Elvira Latta Charles, Unpublished.
50. Mr. Nicholas Charles, Unpublished.
30. Mrs. Shirley A. Daman, 2624 W. Plymouth St., Seattle WA 98199-4125, s3BDan@aol.com.
7. Mr. Larry D. Draughon, 1709 E. Kael St., Mesa AZ 85203-2161.
51. Mr. Ken W. Erdle, 7890 Wexford Ct., Bloomington IN 47408-9339, k.erdle@att.net.
18. Ms. Celia Gammel, P.O. Box 1114, Graham WA 98338.
6. Mrs. Dixie L. Godfrey, 4413 Buena Vida Ct., Carlsbad NM 88220-9363, okie2tex@mywdo.com.
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11. Ms Lucy L. Hilton, 111 Bellingham Dr., Madison MS 39110-8525, Lhilton1@jam.rr.com.
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Research Notes and Queries

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9. I have been receiving requests for general reference info covering the Scotland - Ulster connection of **Latta** families during the 1600's and 1700's. Most of RHL's branches in North America start with a **Latta** (usually William or John) migrating from Ulster to North America in the 1700's. Apparently most of these families originally migrated from the Ayrshire area of Scotland to Ulster during the "Plantation Settlement" days. Can anyone provide some reference sources that would be useful? Keith **Latta**, Victoria, BC, Branch 13, klatta@shaw.ca.

10. I am sending info about my family. Anyone having info, I would appreciate. I do not have a branch number. My family came from Henry County, Tenn. (1841?) to Missouri. My great grandfather, Jeff **Latta**, and Elizabeth Venable **Latta**, settled land in White County, Ark. Near Judsonia. Their children: Luther, Rashe(?), William, John, Annie, Marvin, and Albert. Marvin's children (by Maude **Rice**): Ursil, Flavil, Gary(?), and Virgil. My grandfather, William E. **Latta**, and Virginia **Parker Latta**, came to Oklahoma in 1904, and took land near Chandler, Okla. Annie **Walls** also came to Chandler. Then William went to Bartlesville and worked in the oil fields. Luther **Latta** was also there. Children of Luther: Alta (?), Mildred, Albert, Jay, Davine (?) and Opal. My grandfather stated that his name was Bohemian. It was a common name in Bohemia. Ora **Swink**, San Diego, CA.

Latta Archives Project Update

By Brian Smith, brian.d.smith@cummins.com

Yes, we are still doing the archives project. Valid e-mail addresses are either this one, which will get me, ww9a@sbcglobal.net or aks_710@yahoo.com.

The mailing address for the archives is:

Anna K. Smith, 5425 33rd Street, Columbus,
Indiana 47203. Thanks!

Nominating Committee Report

By Ken Erdle, Branch 51 Captain, and
Chairman of the Nominating Committee,
k.erdle@att.net.

I have the high honor and distinct pleasure of presenting the list of nominees from the nominating committee. The list is as follows:

President - Ken Mueller

Vice-President Communications - Randy Phillips

Vice-President Research - Cathi Vannice

Secretary/Historian - Beryl Redfield

Treasurer - Virginia Curulla

And with this, the nominating committee is officially disbanding.

Terms of Office

As stated in our Bylaws as published in Issue 27, Fall 2005, of the Latta Genealogy Newsletter, the initial President and Treasurer shall be elected for a term of office of three years. The rest of the officers shall be elected to two year terms. After the initial terms are served, all elected officers will serve a two year term.

The Bylaws also state that only persons who have been members of the Latta Genealogy Society for twelve months prior to nominations are eligible for election to any Society position.

Election Procedures

All members current on their dues will have a ballot in their envelope to mail in. In accordance with the Bylaws, a smaller envelope is also provided to mail in the ballot. Please put a stamp on your envelope.

Please mail the ballots by 4 June 2007. The ballots will be counted by Sue Lattea Cox, 6 Woodhill Ave., Salem, West Virginia 26426, and her family, on 20 June 2007. Her e-mail address is: WVCox6@aol.com.

The campaign biographies of the nominees are on the pages following the committee report.

At the June 30th, 2007, meeting of the Latta Genealogy Society, the election results will be announced. All members who wish to attend this meeting may come. This meeting will be held in the Seattle, Washington area. Please contact our Treasurer, Mrs. Curulla, for more information. Her addresses are on Page 3.

The results of this election will also be printed in Issue 32 of the Latta Genealogy Newsletter.

If you are a member in good standing residing outside of North America, and feel that your ballot would be late if mailed, please e-mail your election choices to Mrs. Cox. Then please mail the handwritten ballot marked as confirmation. We will be glad to count your vote. Every member is important to us.

**Ken Mueller, Doc Huer@aol.com,
Candidate for President**

In 1978, after watching the television series, "Roots", I began researching my family history. I was fortunate to be able to interview my parents, grandmother, great aunts and great uncles, aunts and uncles and other relatives. By 1980, I began researching my wife Karen's family history. When Karen interviewed her grandmother, Bernice Storm, she was told that Bernice's grandmother was Sarah Josephine Latta. So while on vacation in 1987 in Washington, DC, I went to the Rare Book Room of the Library of Congress. There I found Robert Latta's 14 volume thesis on the Latta families in America. I opened volume one, and found that Sarah Josephine Latta was of Branch one. I was hooked.

While continuing my research on the Latta family, I was contacted by the late great researcher and editor, Paul Calhoun. We exchanged information, I wrote a few articles for the Latta Genealogy Newsletter, and became the Branch Captain for Latta family one. In 2001, Paul asked for a volunteer to take over as editor of the Latta Genealogy Newsletter. I was honored to be chosen, and began my editorship with Issue 16, Winter 2002. Since then I have continued to help the Latta Genealogy Society as it formed and evolved. If elected, I will continue to serve our Latta family, and I would be privileged to be your president.

**Cathryn E. Vannice, cjazz@comcast.net,
Candidate for Vice President Research**

Cathryn is a native of Washington State. She graduated from the University of Washington with a Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacy and spent 30 years working as a pharmacist in the Seattle area. After retiring, she became interested in genealogy and began researching her family. In 1992, she married Kenneth D. Vannice, who's great grandmother was Sarah Latta Vannice.

She is a graduate of the University of Washington Genealogy and Family History Certificate program. One of the requirements of this program was to write a family history of the participants choosing. She owns Van Nuys Research Associates,

which provides historical and family history research. She is currently involved with a project to write family histories for persons buried in Saar cemetery, a pioneer cemetery in south King County, Washington.

Cathi worked on the committee which wrote the Articles of Incorporation and the bylaws for the Latta Genealogy Society. She is also the coordinator for the Northern Ireland Research Project.

She is serving her 2nd term as President of South King County Genealogy Society and is a member of the Puget Sound Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists, New England Historical & Genealogical Society, Washington State Genealogical Society, Tacoma-Pierce County Genealogical Society, and the Latta Genealogy Society.

**Randy Phillips,
parting_glass65@yahoo.com
Candidate for
Vice President, Communications**

Randy was born in a small community in upstate NY, not far from where his fifth great grandfather, Samuel Latta lived. Since childhood he wanted to be a police officer and follow in his grandfather Earl's footsteps. In 1988 he realized that dream and was sworn in as a member of the City of Geneva Police Department. He will be concluding a twenty year career in February of next year. Not one to remain idle, he began developing a second career in anticipation of retiring from law enforcement, and has been the security director for a large western NY bank since 2003. He has three daughters and one son.

He has always had a very keen interest in history, especially the local history of the Geneva area which is where a large number of ancestors on both sides of his family resided. Randy's grandmother, Peg, now in her nineties, was the inspiration for him to start researching his family genealogy. She carefully maintained a wealth of genealogical information that had previously been researched by other family members, and she added to this as time progressed. As she would relate the lineage to Randy, she would tell

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Randy Phillips

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numerous stories from her childhood and about her parents and grandparents. A deep interest in family history was cultivated during those visits.

As mentioned above, Samuel Latta [3 Samuel (2) of branch 4] lived near Geneva, NY and was a founder of the Seneca Number Nine Church which still stands and holds regular services. Samuel and his wife are buried in the church's cemetery. Being able to stand at Samuel's grave and gaze upon the church that Samuel helped build left an incredible desire in Randy to learn all he can about his Latta ancestors and to seek out other links to the past such as the Number Nine Church. While his dual careers have made it hard to find time for genealogy research, Randy is looking forward to slowing down next year and spending more time in researching branch 4 of the Latta family. Sincerely, Randy Phillips.

**Beryl Redfield, Bredf331@comcast.net,
Candidate for Secretary/Historian**

Beryl was born in China to a military father and lived in San Diego, New Orleans, Virginia Beach and Arlington, Virginia. She attended the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. In 1970, she moved to Utah and has lived there ever since. She presently works at the VA Medical Center in Salt Lake City. She is the mother of six children and grandmother of seven.

Beryl's interest in genealogy began in 1959 when she heard about a family document called The Circle of Nine, which was a compilation of round-robin style letters originated by her mother's cousin in the 1930s, wherein each of the nine Thompson children of Harvey Thompson wrote their family history and family memories. She was able to obtain this document and made a copy of it and became the starting point of her genealogy interest and research. Her mother's cousin had done extensive research on several family lines, notably

the Thompson, McWilliams and Day families, including the original Day ancestor who came to America in 1634.

On and off thru the ensuing 40 years, Beryl added information to her files. With the advent of the Internet, she was able to contact others searching her lines, and in 1999 she discovered Alex Latta while searching her Latta line. This special man provided documents and information, and even more important on two occasions passed through Salt Lake City and was a guest in her home. He delighted in sharing stories and pictures and demonstrating the true spirit of genealogy.

**Virginia Curulla,
Latta4gen@earthlink.net,
Candidate for Treasurer**

I was born in Seattle Washington. My father, Charles Webster Latta - Branch 22, first came to Washington from Indiana around 1910. My mother's family moved to Seattle from New Haven, Connecticut in 1905. I have degrees in Spanish, special education, and school psychology. I recall being curious about photos of my father's family when I was quite young. I asked him about one of an old gentleman, and he said it was his grandfather. I dutifully wrote "dad's grandpa" on the back, never thinking to ask which side of the family. In 1987, when I was attending a conference in Salt Lake City, I became seriously interested in family history, and have been "caught" ever since. My husband knows that I'm sure to find cousins and courthouses wherever we go. I met Paul Calhoun on a trip to Ohio in 2001 after subscribing to the Latta Genealogy newsletter that he had been publishing for several years. About a year after that, Paul asked me if I would be treasurer for the group. I agreed, and that was the beginning for me of the Latta Genealogy Society.
